

Appl. No. 10/036,308
Amendment dated December 2, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated August 2, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants have received and reviewed an Office Action dated August 2, 2004. By way of response, Applicants have amended claims 4-6 and 9. No new matter is presented. Claims 4-6 and 9-13 are pending. Applicants submit that the pending claims are supported by the specification.

For the reasons given below, Applicants submit that the amended claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Petition for Extension of Time

It is noted that a one-month petition for extension of time is necessary to provide for the timeliness of the response. A request for such an extension is made extending the time for responses to December 2, 2004.

Rejection of Claims Under § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 4-6 and 9-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Examiner suggested replacing the term "detecting" in claims 4-6 with the term --determining--. Applicants have amended the claims to recite --determining-- rather than "detecting".

The Examiner objected the way in which claims 5-6 referred back to claim 4. In response, claims 5 and 6 have been amended to be in independent form.

Accordingly, it is believed that the amended claims fully comply with § 112, second paragraph, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

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Summary

In summary, Applicants submit that each of claims 4-6 and 9-13 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below, if the Examiner believes that doing so will expedite prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: Dec 2, 2004

By: Mark T. Skoog
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